

To: FACS Teachers

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Concerning: "EOC Review/Competency Test Ethics"

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In the last few days there have been numerous request for EOC (end of course) test for review. FACS teachers are always so generous to share what they have with others. I have not had the opportunity to open everything that has gone across on the listserv. I did, however, open a couples of emails and am concerned about the review items I saw. Several of the questions in the review were test items bank questions. Some were questions that are on tests this year, some appeared on test last year and the year before. Most were written in the same format and wording that is required for our EOC test. Both our office and the office of assessment and curriculum have discussed many times the importance of ethical practices concerning testing questions and the administration of test. We want to make sure that everyone is being ethical concerning competency testing. This will prevent an individual from being reprimanded or possibly losing their job. Listed below are a couple of unethical practices that can be associated to the EOC reviews that have been sent out on the listserv. Others can be found on the WETEST site link:

<http://wetest.k12.ar.us/Ethics.htm>

Unethical Practices:

- Instruction limited to objectives on the test and in the same format that they are presented on the test
- Using current or previous forms of the test as a practice test.

(NOTE: Taken from WETEST site: If unethical practices are noted the following may occur: Through its testing software DWE has the ability to monitor unethical testing behavior in the live testing environment. Any behavior that is deemed unethical according to the above standards will be immediately reported to the school administration. Consequences can range from withdraw of school Perkins funds, to the dismissal of the instructor involved.)

I know that in the education setting today that testing is an important issue to every stakeholder. We just want to make sure that our test scores are accurate and reliable. We want the scores from students to reflect what is being taught through the frameworks not just memorizing test questions that might appear on the test. Please go to the above listed website and review. I am not trying to "police" the listserv or what goes through it but to help prevent any serious ramifications that could happen to any FACS teacher who might unknowingly be passing along information that might cause them to lose their job. If you have question concerning this email, please feel free to contact me.

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